

MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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Aluminum, Monthly

ALUMINUM IN JULY 1996

Domestic primary aluminum production in July was 301,487 metric tons. The average daily production rate was 9,725 tons, slightly lower than that of the previous month, but 5% above the rate for July 1995.

The monthly average U.S. spot or market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased slightly from 69.94 cents per pound in June to 69.07 cents per pound in July, according to *Platt's Metals Week*. According to *American Metal Market*, the published buying price range for processed aluminum used beverage can (UBC) scrap held steady at 47 to 48 cents per pound during July. According to *Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report*, the monthly average transaction price for aluminum UBC's was 50 cents per pound.

U.S. Trade:

Total imports for consumption of aluminum for the first half of 1996 decreased approximately 16% compared with those for the first half of 1995. Imports were lower in all three subcategories; however, the largest decrease appeared in the plate, sheet, bars, etc. category. Imports of semifabricated aluminum products were about one-third lower than those for the

same period in 1995. Total imports from Russia remained well below levels for a comparable period in 1995.

Total U.S. exports of aluminum for the first half of 1996 also decreased and were approximately 8% below those for the first half of 1995.

Update:

The monthly average spot or market price of primary aluminum ingot increased slightly to 69.42 cents per pound in August. The buying price range for aluminum UBC scrap rose and widened to 50 to 52 cents per pound in mid-August. The UBC price remained at this level through the end of the month.

Publications on the Internet

Monthly, quarterly, and annual Minerals Information publications are now available through the World Wide Web (WWW). These publications include Mineral Commodity Summaries, Minerals Yearbook, Mineral Industry Surveys, and Metal Industry Indicators. To access Minerals Information publications, visit the Minerals Information home page at <http://minerals.er.usgs.gov/minerals>.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery 2/			Imports for consumption			Total new supply 3/	Total stocks end of period 4/
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
1995: 5/	3,375	1,680	1,510	3,190	1,930	622	2,560	9,120	2,000
1995:									
July	288	141	131	271	136	55	191	750	2,130
August	286	145	139	284	134	43	177	747	2,080
September	280	137	135	272	117	44	161	713	2,000
October	289	141	130	271	137	38	175	735	1,980
November	285	130	123	253	139	46	185	723	1,970
December	299	132 r/	115	247	133	33	166	712	2,000
Jan. - July	1,936	1,030	943	1,970	1,270	416	1,690	5,600	2,130
1996:									
January	301	143	123 r/	266	158	36	194	762 r/	1,990
February	283	148	117	265	150	37	187	735	2,030
March	303	151	125	276	148	43	191	770	2,010
April	293	153	131	283	188	41	229	805	2,010
May	303	154	134	288 t/	176	42	217	808 t/	1,960
June	293	147	119	266	169	40	210	768	NA
July	301	151	126	277	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jan. - July	2,078	1,050	874	1,920	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

3/ Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

4/ Includes scrap; data from Current Industrial Reports, Series M33D, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

5/ Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
1995: 2/	1,430	1,150	1,400	1,240	743	687	113	99	12	11	3,690	3,190
July	112	93	114	101	78	72	5	5	1	1	310	271
August	114	95 r/	126	111	73	67	10	9	1	1	325	283
September	115	95	114	101	73	67	9	8	1	1	312	272
October	114	94	115	106	70	64	11	9	1	1	310	271
November	114	94	105	93	62	57	9	7	1	1	290	253
December	114	94	102	90	57	52	11	9	1	1	284	247
Jan. - July	796	659	835	743	539	497	73	65	8	8	2,250	1,970
1996:												
January	124	101	114	102	59	55	10	9	1	1	308	266
February	123	100	111	99	62	57	9	8	1	1	305	265
March	123	100	120	107	67	62	8	7	1	1	318	276
April	124	101	129	115	63	58	9	9	1	1	326	283
May	124	101	129	115	69	63	9	8	1	1	331	288 r/
June	124	101	106	95	66	61	9	8	1	1	306	266
July	124	101	114	102	71	66	9	8	1	1	319	277
Jan. - July	868	703	823	734	457	421	63	57	7	7	2,220	1,920

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN JULY 1996 1/

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	104,000	124,000	84,100	101,000
Integrated aluminum companies	114,000	114,000	102,000	102,000
Independent mill fabricators	59,200	71,000	54,700	65,600
Foundries	7,700	9,240	7,060	8,480
Other consumers	491	589	491	589
Total	285,000	319,000	248,000	277,000

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN
JULY 1996 1/

(Metric tons)

	Stocks opening	Net receipts 2/	Melted or consumed	Stocks closing
New scrap:				
Solids	17,400 r/	83,600	82,600	18,400
Can stock clippings	7,220	20,100	19,200	8,140
Other clippings	6,450	16,000	15,700	6,760
Borings and turnings	4,560	17,900	18,100	4,390
Dross and skimmings	3,510	17,100	17,100	3,510
Total new scrap	39,100 r/	155,000	153,000	41,200
Old scrap:				
Used casting, sheet, and clippings	21,800 r/	56,200	56,200	21,800
Aluminum-copper radiators	911	1,040	1,010	942
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	26,500	71,100	69,200	28,400
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	W	W	W	W
Other	1,010	4,850	4,840	1,020
Total old scrap	50,200 r/	133,000	131,000	52,200
Sweated pig	2,660	1,250	1,240	2,670
Total all classes	92,000 r/	289,000	285,000	96,000

r/ Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Other."

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS
IN THE UNITED STATES IN JULY 1996 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	Stocks opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks closing
Die cast alloys:				
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,000	4,180	4,010	3,160
380 and variations	12,900	40,400	40,300	13,000
Sand and permanent mold:				
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	13,000	1,070	1,060	13,000
No. 319 and variations	3,500	6,880	6,800	3,580
F-132 alloy and variations	1,840	2,840	2,820	1,850
Al-Zn alloys	490	183	183	490
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	98	194	200	93
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	63	77	77	63
Other 3/	4,320	3,380	3,250	4,460
Wrought alloys:				
Extrusion billets	4,870	12,300	12,600	4,580
Total all alloys	44,100	71,500	71,300	44,300
Less:				
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	3,740	XX	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	6,080	XX	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	338	XX	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot 4/	XX	61,300	XX	XX

XX Not applicable.

1/ Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum scrap.

4/ No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JUNE 1996 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	June	Jan. - June 2/	June	Jan. - June 2/	June	Jan. - June 2/	June	Jan. - June 2/
Argentina	--	137	60	63	37	1,860	97	2,060
Australia	--	482	113	1,230	204	894	316	2,610
Bahrain	--	--	1,600	5,100	--	--	1,600	5,100
Belgium	7	872	392	2,680	--	80	399	3,630
Bosnia and Herzegovina	--	--	--	44	--	--	--	44
Brazil	219	8,320	40	288	--	--	259	8,610
Canada	113,000	684,000	25,200	139,000	18,800	106,000	157,000	929,000
Croatia	--	--	206	797	--	--	206	797
Czech Republic	--	--	--	(3/)	--	--	--	(3/)
France	111	686	762	4,940	204	1,720	1,080	7,340
Germany	18	1,190	1,640	13,000	611	4,960	2,260	19,200
Ghana	--	--	--	--	--	369	--	369
Hungary	--	--	28	1,020	--	--	28	1,020
Italy	4	17	783	8,040	--	62	787	8,120
Japan	21	169	635	5,060	33	104	689	5,330
Kazakstan	8	16	--	--	--	--	8	16
Korea, Republic of	--	16	22	214	--	--	22	230
Mexico	42	578	986	5,690	5,240	37,800	6,270	44,100
Netherlands	11	346	321	1,970	55	419	387	2,740
Norway	35	239	259	2,740	--	--	294	2,970
Russia	36,200	203,000	42	5,300	654	7,540	36,900	216,000
Slovakia	82	290	--	--	--	--	82	290
Slovenia	--	--	196	1,470	--	--	196	1,470
South Africa	19	1,570	276	1,620	--	54	294	3,240
Spain	--	105	1,090	7,370	--	--	1,090	7,470
Sweden	--	--	236	1,380	108	588	344	1,970
Switzerland	--	14	201	1,540	--	686	201	2,240
Tajikistan	1,680	14,500	--	--	--	--	1,680	14,500
Ukraine	1,170	2,970	--	--	--	--	1,170	2,970
United Arab Emirates	--	--	--	--	106	561	106	561
United Kingdom	94	1,040	1,750	8,850	662	8,420	2,510	18,300
Venezuela	15,800	65,200	2,550	13,500	1,610	15,300	20,000	94,000
Other	361	1,740	1,050	6,230	3,200	16,800	4,610	24,800
Total	169,000	988,000	40,400	239,000	31,500	204,000	241,000	1,430,000

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes revised data from previous months.

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JUNE 1996 1/

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	June	Jan. - June	June	Jan. - June 2/	June	Jan. - June	June	Jan. - June 2/
Armenia	--	--	--	23	--	--	--	23
Australia	45	329	169	1,760	7	7	221	2,090
Belgium	--	9	599	6,770	13	35	612	6,820
Brazil	--	34	1,870	9,840	--	44	1,870	9,910
Canada	11,300	63,000	29,500	171,000	4,750	29,000	45,600	263,000
China	20	43	3,320	12,300	3,360	14,300	6,700	26,600
Czech Republic	--	--	(3/)	3	--	18	(3/)	20
Dominican Republic	--	2	176	1,160	--	--	176	1,160
France	30	245	289	1,630	--	2	319	1,880
Germany	8	205	2,430	10,600	115	167	2,550	11,000
Hong Kong	222	1,010	1,120	7,250	5,190	23,600	6,530	31,800
India	--	12	43	97	--	353	43	461
Israel	16	42	176	1,410	--	12	192	1,460
Italy	1	26	175	1,260	--	39	176	1,320
Japan	34,400	107,000	2,550	14,900	4,390	30,200	41,300	152,000
Korea, Republic of	1,730	11,100	2,060	10,400	3,720	21,200	7,500	42,700
Latvia	--	--	33	33	--	--	33	33
Malaysia	298	599	111	1,700	82	261	491	2,560
Mexico	4,640	19,900	8,060	51,900	1,920	8,220	14,600	80,000
Netherlands	8	349	245	963	1	183	254	1,500
Russia	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	1
Saudi Arabia	--	32	139	14,600	--	--	139	14,600
Singapore	18	77	668	2,060	--	1	686	2,140
Spain	1	31	200	1,060	118	723	319	1,810
Sweden	--	313	2	238	22	23	24	574
Taiwan	779	4,490	803	7,370	6,810	23,700	8,390	35,600
Thailand	519	4,540	288	2,810	84	623	891	7,980
United Kingdom	18	279	1,600	10,800	(3/)	12,600	1,620	23,800
Venezuela	--	39	946	6,550	36	376	982	6,960
Other	221	3,110	5,720	29,800	168	4,840	6,110	37,700
Total	54,300	217,000	63,300	380,000	30,800	170,000	148,000	768,000

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes revised data from previous months.

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: Bureau of the Census.